

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

In response to the new restriction/election requirement, please note the following remarks:

With respect to paragraph 2a on page 2 of the Office Action, in view of the Examiner's comments it is noted that the term "homogeneous" has been replaced with the term --solid-- to more clearly convey the fact that the absorbing rod is solid rather than being hollow. As defined in Webster's Dictionary, a "homogeneous" item is one that has the same structure. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that the term "rod" when describing the absorbing rod would mean that the rod is not hollow. Thus, the absorbing rod is solid (and thus has a homogeneous structure) in the present invention as compared with the prior art wherein such is hollow. Further, in the specification, any tubular structure in the present invention that is hollow has been referred to as a "pipe" wherein a solid bar-like structure is recited as being a "rod". Accordingly to Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, a copy of which is enclosed, the term "rod" is defined as a "slender bar", a "bar" is defined as a "solid piece" and a "solid" is defined as "being without internal cavity" or "non-interrupted by a break or opening". In contrast thereto, a pipe is defined as "a long tube or hollow body". Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that a rod means a solid long body. In view of the

Applicant's attorney respectfully submits that neither the amendments made the specification as presently amended nor Claim 13 as previously submitted in the amendment dated October 10, 2002 nor as now amended include new matter.

With respect to paragraph 2b of the Office Action, line 7-8 on page 16 of the specification recites the phrase "Further, any material having a property to absorb the neutrons may be used instead of Boron or Boron compound", (as now amended). The same paragraph referred to by the Examiner in the Office Action instead merely states that instead of boron or boron compounds, and Ag-In-Cd alloy may be used as a substance for absorbing neutrons for PWR. Accordingly, it is believed that the amendment to page 16 is helpful to overcome this matter.

With respect to paragraph 2c, in view of the statements set forth hereinabove and the explanation as to why no new matter has been added in the amendment filed October 10, 2002, it is submitted that this portion of the Office Action has been properly responded to.

With regard to paragraph 3 of the Office Action, Applicant's hereby provisionally elect species A (PWR) corresponding to both Claims 13 and 14, it being noted that Claim 13 is believed by Applicants to be generic.

With respect to paragraph 4 of the Office Action, Applicant's also provisionally elect species b (boron compound) corresponding to both Claims 13 and 14, it again being noted that Claim 13 is believed to be generic.

As for paragraph 5 of the Office Action, it is believed that the Examiner has not correctly interpreted the meaning of the claims. For example, Claim 13 recites the limitation "formed by adding a powder boron or a boron compound having a neutral absorbing performance to aluminum or an aluminum powder".

In this regard, it is submitted that the Examiner has misinterpreted the phrase "absorbing performance to aluminum or an aluminum powder" as meaning an "absorbing performance comparable to aluminum or an aluminum alloy powder". However, this limitation in Claim 13 is actually intended to mean forming by adding, to aluminum or an aluminum alloy powder, powdered boron or a boron compound having a neutron absorbing performance.

According, Claim 13 has been appropriately amended for closer compliance with Applicants intended claiming of the invention.

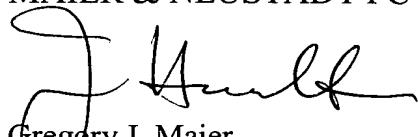
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted with respect to paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Office Action, Applicants are presently unable to make the election required by the Examiner and therefore request reconsideration of this requirement or to be given an explanation as to why it is possible to make such election.

As for paragraph 7 of the Office Action, Applicants hereby elect B<sub>4</sub>C as the boron compound upon election of species b corresponding to both Claims 13 and 14.

In view of the foregoing and in view of the remarks presented here and above, an early and favorable Office Action is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph, page 16, beginning at line 8 as follows:

Further, any material having a property to absorb the neutrons may be [uses] used instead of boron or boron compound. That is, Cd, Hf, or rare earth elements having a bigger neutron absorbing cross section may be used. For example, boron or boron compound are used in case of BWR, however, Ag-In-Cd compound are used in case of PWR. In the Ag-In-Cd compound, it is general that In is 15 weight present and Cd is 5 weight present. Further, carbides such as Eu, Sm, Gd may be used.

Please amend paragraph, page 25, beginning at line 6 as follows:

On the suspension plate 60, an optical fiber 71 is wound through a take-up unit 73 corresponding to the vertical motion of the lower end plate 62. The optical fiber 71 penetrates the through-hole 76 of the upper end [plate61] plate 61, and extends up to an imaging whole 94 of the lower end plate 62. At the leading end of the optical fiber 71, there is a lens 72 of the optical fiber 71, and the lens 72 is directed downward through the imaging whole 94. A weight 91 is provided at the leading end of the optical fiber 71, and the lens 72 of the optical fiber 71 is pressed, so that the image may be stably taken. The other end of the optical fiber 71 is connected to the imaging unit not shown through the take-up unit 73, and the image near the lens 72 is taken by the camera or the like.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 13 to read as follows:

13. (Amended) An absorbing rod which is to be inserted into a control rod guide pip of bent fuel assemblies or a measuring pipe, said absorbing rod comprising a [homogeneous] solid structure comprising one of an aluminum composite material and an aluminum alloy formed by adding, to aluminum or an aluminum alloy powder, a powdered boron or a boron compound having a neutron absorbing performance [to aluminum or an aluminum alloy powder], said absorbing rod being insertable into one of said control rod guide pipe and said measuring pipe when transporting spent fuel assemblies stored in casket.

# Webster's 10th New Collegiate Dictionary

1020 robusta coffee rodent

#12

*syn* see **HEALTHY** — **ro-bust-ly** *adv* — **ro-bust-ness** \rō-bəs(t)-nəs, \rō-bəs(t)-n  
ro-bus-ta coffee \rō-bəs-tə-\ n [NL *robusta*, specific epithet of *Coffea robusta*, syn. of *Coffea canephora*] (1909) 1 : a coffee (*Coffea canephora*) that is indigenous to central Africa but has been introduced elsewhere (as in Java) 2 a : the seed of robusta coffee b : coffee brewed from the seed of robusta coffee  
ro-bus-tious \rō-bəs-chəs\ adj (1548) 1 : ROBUST 2 : vigorous in a rough or unrefined way: BOISTEROUS — **ro-bus-tious-ly** *adv* — **ro-bus-tious-ness** n  
roc \rōk\ n [Ar *rukhkh*] (1579) : a legendary bird of great size and strength believed to inhabit the Indian ocean area  
Ro-chelle salt \rō-shel\ n [La *Rochelle*, France] (ca. 1753) : a crystalline salt  $KNa_3H_4O_6 \cdot 4H_2O$  that is a mild purgative  
roche-mou-tou-née \rōsh-,müt-n̄-n̄\ n, pl *roches* mou-ton-nées \samo- or -az\ (F, lit., fleecy rock) (1843) : an elongate rounded ice-sculptured hillock of bedrock  
roc-het \rōk-hət\ [ME *rokken*, fr. OF *roc*, coat, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rucken* to cause to move] vi (bef. 12c) 1 a : to move back and forth in or as if in a cradle b : to wash (placer gravel) in a cradle 2 a : to cause to sway back and forth (a boat *swayed* by the waves) b (1) : to cause to shake violently (2) : PISTUR, UPSET ~ vi 1 : to become moved backward and forward under impact 2 : to move oneself or itself rhythmically back and forth *syn* see **SHAKE** — **rock the boat** : to do something that disturbs the equilibrium of a situation  
rock n (1823) 1 : rocking movement 2 : popular music usu. played on electronically amplified instruments and characterized by a persistent heavily accented beat, much repetition of simple phrases, and often country, folk, and blues elements  
rock n [ME *roc*, fr. MD *rocke*; akin to OHG *rocko* distaff, *roc* coat] (14c) 1 : DISTAFF 2 : the wool or flax on a distaff  
rock n [ME *rokke*, fr. ONF *roque*, fr. (assumed) VL *rocco*] (14c) 1 : a large mass of stone forming a cliff, promontory, or peak 2 : a concreted mass of stony material; also : broken pieces of such masses 3 : consolidated or unconsolidated solid mineral matter; also : a particular mass of it 4 a : something like a rock in firmness: (1) : FOUNDATION, SUPPORT (2) : REFUGE (a ~ of independent thought ... in an ocean of parochialism — Thomas Molnar) b : something that threatens or causes disaster — often used in pl. 5 a : a flavored stick candy with color running through b : ROCK CANDY 1 6 slang a : GEM b : DIAMOND — **rock adj** — **rock-like** \rōk-,lik\ adj — on the rocks 1 : in or into a state of destruction or wreckage (their marriage went on the rocks) 2 : on ice cubes (bourbon on the rocks)  
rock-a-bil-ly \rōk-,bil-ə\ n [rock + -billy (as in *hillbilly*)] (1956) : pop music marked by features of rock and country music  
rock and roll n (ca. 1954) : **ROCK 2**  
rock and roller n (1956) : **ROCKER 3**  
rock and rye n (1880) : a liqueur made with rock candy, rye whiskey, fruit juice, and sometimes fruit slices  
rock-away \rōk-,wā\ n [perh. fr. *Rockaway*, New Jersey] (1845) : a light low four-wheeled carriage with a fixed top and open sides  
rock bass n (1815) 1 : a sunfish (*Ambloplites rupestris*) found esp. in the upper Mississippi valley and Great Lakes region 2 a : STRIPED BASS b : any of several sea basses (genus *Paralabrax*) of the California and adjoining Mexican coast  
rock-bottom adj (1866) : being the very lowest (~ off-season rates)  
rock bottom n (1884) : the lowest or most fundamental part or level  
rock-bound \rōk-,bānd\ adj (1840) : fringed, surrounded, or covered with rocks: **ROCKY**  
rock brake n (1846) : any of several ferns that grow chiefly on or among rocks  
rock candy n (1723) 1 : boiled sugar crystallized in large masses on string and used esp. in rock and rye 2 : **ROCK 5a**  
Rock Cornish n (ca. 1956) : a crossbred domestic fowl produced by interbreeding Cornish and white Plymouth Rock fowls and used esp. for small roasters  
rock crystal (1666) : transparent quartz  
rock dove n (ca. 1611) : a bluish gray wild pigeon (*Columba livia*) of Europe and Asia that is the ancestor of many domesticated pigeons and of the feral pigeons found in cities and towns throughout most of the world — called also **rock pigeon**  
rock-er \rōk-ər\ n (1760) 1 a : either of two curving pieces of wood or metal on which an object (as a cradle) rocks b : any of various objects (as an infant's toy having a seat placed between side pieces) that rock on rockers c : any of various objects in the form of a rocker d : one of the curved stripes at the lower part of a chevron worn by a noncommissioned officer above the rank of sergeant 2 : any of various devices that work with a rocking motion 3 : a rock performer, song, or enthusiast — off one's rocker : in a state of extreme confusion or insanity (went off her rocker, and had to be put away —Mervyn Wall)

rock-er arm n (1860) : a center-pivoted lever to push an automotive engine valve down  
rock-ery \rōk-,ə-rē\ n, pl -er-ies [rock + -ery] chiefly Brit (1845) : **ROCK GARDEN**  
rock-et \rōk-ət, rāk-ət\ n [MF *roquette*, fr. OIt *rochetta*, dim. of *rucca* garden rocket, fr. L *eruca*] (ca. 1530) : any of several plants of the mustard family: a : **GARDEN ROCKET** b : **DAMES VIOLET**  
rock-et \rōk-ət\ n, often attrib [la *rochetta*, lit., small distaff, fr. dim. of *rocco* distaff, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rocko* distaff] (1611) 1 a : a firework consisting of a case partly filled with a combustible composition fastened to a guiding stick and projected through the air by the reaction resulting from the rearward discharge of the gases liberated by combustion b : such a device used as an incendiary weapon or as a propelling unit (as for a lifesaving line or a whaling harpoon) 2 : a jet engine that operates on the same principle as the firework rocket, consists essentially of a combustion chamber and an exhaust nozzle, carries either liquid or solid propellants which provide the fuel and oxygen needed for combustion and thus make the engine indepen-

dent of the oxygen of the air, and is used esp. for the propagation of missile (as a bomb or shell) or a vehicle (as an airplane)  
rock-et \rōk-ət\ vi (1860) 1 : to rise up swiftly, especially with force 2 : to travel rapidly in or as if in a rocket ~ vi 1 : to cause by means of or as if by a rocket  
rocket bomb n (ca. 1895) 1 : an aerial bomb designed for release at altitude and equipped with a rocket apparatus for giving it additional momentum 2 : a rocket-propelled bomb launched from the ground  
rock-e-ter \rōk-ə-tēr\ n (1832) 1 : one who fires, pilots, or directs a rocket 2 : a scientist who specializes in rocketry  
rocket plane n (1932) : an airplane propelled by rockets or similar rocket launchers  
rocket-ry \rōk-ə-trē\ n (1930) : the study of, experimentation in, or use of rockets  
rocket ship n (1927) : a rocket-propelled craft capable of traveling beyond the earth's atmosphere  
rocket sled n (1954) : a rocket-propelled vehicle that runs on a single rail and that is used esp. in aeronautical experimentation  
rock-tail \rōk-tōl\ n (1924) : a mass of falling or fallen rocks  
rock-fish \rōk-fish\ n (1605) : any of various important market fishes found living among rocks or on rocky bottoms: a : any of numerous paenid fishes (esp. genus *Sebastes*) b : **STRIPED BASS** c : any of various groupers  
rock garden n (1836) : a garden laid out among rocks or decorated rocks and adapted for the growth of particular kinds of plants (as pines)  
rock hind n (ca. 1867) : any of various spotted groupers found about rocky coasts or reefs  
rock hound n (1915) 1 : specialist in geology; esp : one who collects rocks for oil 2 : an amateur rock and mineral collector — **rock hound** \rōk-haʊnd\ n  
rock-hau-dip\ n  
rock-i-ness \rōk-ē-nəs\ n (ca. 1611) : the quality or state of being rocky  
rocking chair n (1766) : a chair mounted on rockers  
rocking horse n (1724) : a toy horse mounted on rockers  
hobbyhorse  
rock-ing \rōk-ing\ n (1602) : any of several small rather elongated rock cods (family Gadidae)  
rock lobster n (ca. 1884) 1 : SPINY LOBSTER 2 : the flesh of a rock lobster esp. when canned or frozen for use as food  
rock maple n (1775) : a sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)  
rock 'n' roll, rock 'n' roller var of **ROCK AND ROLL** **ROCK AND ROLL**  
rock-oil n (1668) : **PETROLEUM**  
rock-on \rōk-,ōn\ n [rock + balloon] (1953) : a small rocket carried to a high altitude by a balloon and then fired  
rock pigeon n (ca. 1611) : **ROCK DOVE**  
rock rabbit n (1840) 1 : **HYRAX 2**: **PIKA**  
rock-ribbed \rōk-,ribd\ adj (1776) 1 : **ROCKY 2** : firm and inflexible in doctrine or integrity (a ~ of conservative community —John Harvard)  
rock-rose \rōk-,rōz\ n (ca. 1731) : any of various shrubs or herbs (family Cistaceae, the rockrose family) with simple entire leaves and a capsular fruit  
rock salt n (1707) : common salt occurring in solid form as a mass; also : salt artificially prepared in large crystals or masses  
rock-shaft \rōk-shāft\ n (ca. 1864) : a shaft that oscillates on a pivot instead of revolving  
rock tripe n (1854) : any of various dark leathery umbilical lichens (as of the genus *Umbilicaria*) that are widely distributed in boreal and alpine areas and that are sometimes used as a fancy food  
rock wallaby n (1841) : any of various medium-sized kangaroos (genus *Petrogale*)  
rock-weed \rōk-,wēd\ n (1626) : any of various coarse brown seaweeds (family Fucaceae, esp. genera *Fucus* and *Ascophyllum*) growing attached to rocks  
rock wool n (ca. 1909) : mineral wool made by blowing a mixture through molten rock (as limestone or siliceous rock) or through a stone and used chiefly for heat and sound insulation  
rocky \rōk-ē\ adj **rock-ier**, **-est** [rock] (15c) 1 : abounding in rocks 2 : difficult to impress or affect: **INSENSITIVE** 3 : firmly held: **STEADFAST**  
rocky adj **rock-ier**, **-est** [rock] (1737) 1 : **UNSTABLE** 2 : physically upset (as from drinking excessively) 3 : **WORRIED** 4 : **DIFFICULT** (as financially ~ year —Michael Murray)  
Rocky Mountain sheep n [*Rocky mountains*, No. America] (1801) : **HOARY SHEEP**  
Rocky Mountain spotted fever n (1903) : an acute tick-borne disease characterized by chills, fever, prostration, pains in muscles and a red to purple eruption and transmitted by the bite of a tick (*Dermacentor andersoni*)  
roc-co-co \rōk-,kō-\kō, rō-kə-\kō\ n (1840) : **rococo** work or style  
rococo adj [F, irreg. fr. *rocaille* rock work, fr. rock; alt. of *roche*, fr. (assumed) VL *rocco*] (1841) 1 a : of or relating to the artistic style of the 18th century characterized by fanciful and delicate forms and elaborate ornamentation b : of or relating to the 18th century musical style marked by light gay ornamentation and texture from thorough-bass and polyphony 2 : excessively delicate and intricate  
rod \rōd\ n [ME, fr. OE *rodd*; akin to ON *rudda* club] (15c) 1 : a straight slender stick growing on or cut from a tree or shrub 2 : OSIER 3 : a stick or bundle of twigs used to punishment 4 : a shepherd's cudgel 5 : a pole with a line and weights attached for fishing b (1) : a slender bar (as of wood or metal) used as a staff or for measuring (2) : **SCHEPTER** also **ROD** 6 : a bar or staff for measuring (3) : **SCHEPTER** also **ROD** 7 : a bar carried as a badge of office (as of marshal) 8 : a unit of weight (as of a grain) 9 : a square rod 3 : any of the long photosensitive receptors in the retina responsive to light 4 : a rod-shaped bacterium 5 slang : **PISTOL** — **rodless** \rōd-ls\ adj like \rōk-,lik\ adj  
rod past and chiefly dial past part of **RIDE**  
rodent \rōd-ənt\ n [deriv. of L *rodent*, *rodens*, pp. of *rodere*, to gnaw] (1859) : any of an order (Rodentia) of gnawing mammals (as a mouse, a squirrel, or a beaver) that play

# BEST AVAILABLE COPY

bank bar 129

bank *n* [ME fr. MF or OIt; MF *banque*, fr. OIt *banca*, lit., bench, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *benc*] (15c) 1 *a* *obs* : the table, counter, or place of business of a money changer *b* : an establishment for the custody, loan, exchange, or issue of money, for the extension of credit, or for facilitating the transmission of funds 2 : a person conducting a gambling house or game; *specif* : DEALER 3 : a supply of something held in reserve; as: *a* : the fund of supplies (as money, chips, or pieces) held by the banker or dealer for use in a game *b* : a fund of pieces belonging to a game (as dominoes) from which the players draw 4 : a place where something is held available; *esp* : a depot for the collection and storage of a biological product of human origin for medical use *bank vi* (ca. 1727) 1 : to keep a bank 2 : to deposit money or have an account in a bank. ~ *vt* : to deposit in a bank — *bank on* : to depend or rely on *banker n* [ME fr. OF *banc* bench, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *benc*] (1599) 1 : a bench for the rowers of a galley 2 : a group or series of objects arranged together in a row or a tier; as: *a* : a row of keys on a typewriter *b* : a set of two or more elevators 3 : one of the horizontal and usu. secondary or lower divisions of a headline *bankable* *'ban-kə-bəl* *adj* (1818) 1 : acceptable to or at a bank 2 : sure to bring in a profit (Hollywood's most ~ star — Sidney Sheldon) *bank-book* *'bank-buk'* *n* (1714) : the depositor's book in which a bank records deposits and withdrawals — called also *passbook* *bank-card* *'bank-kərd'* *n* (1970) : a credit card issued by a bank *bank-discount* *n* (1841) : the interest discounted in advance on a note and computed on the face value of the note *banker* *'ban-kər'* *n* (1534) 1 : one that engages in the business of banking 2 : the player who keeps the bank in various games *banker n* (1666) : a man or boat employed in the cod fishery on the Newfoundland banks *banker* *n* (1677) : a sculptor's or mason's workbench *banker's acceptance* *n* (ca. 1913) : a short-term credit instrument issued by an importer's bank that guarantees payment of an exporter's invoice *banker's bill* *n* (ca. 1902) : BANKER'S ACCEPTANCE *bank-holiday* *n* (1871) 1 *Brit* : LEGAL HOLIDAY 2 : a period when banks in general are closed often by government fiat *bank line* *n* (1735) : the business of a bank or a banker *bank line* *n* [bank] (1939) : a fishing line attached to the shore and not constantly tended by a fisherman *bank money* *n* (1904) : a medium of exchange consisting chiefly of checks and drafts *bank note* *n* (1695) : a promissory note issued by a bank payable to bearer on demand without interest and acceptable as money *bank rate* *n* *Brit* (1876) : DISCOUNT RATE *bank-roll* *'ban-kəl'* *n* (1887) : supply of money: FUNDS *bank-roll* *n* (1928) : to supply the capital for or pay the cost of (a business or project) — *bank-er* *n* *bankrupt* *'ban-kərpt'* *n* [modif. of MF & OIt; MF *banqueroute* — fr. OIt *bancarota*, fr. *banca* bank + *rotta* broken, fr. L *rotta* fem. of *ruptus*, pp. of *rumpere* to break — more at BANK, REAVE] (1337) 1 *a* : a person who has done any of the acts that by law entitles his creditors to have his estate administered for their benefit *b* : a person judicially declared subject to having his estate administered under the bankrupt laws for the benefit of his creditors *c* : a person who becomes insolvent 2 : one who is destitute of a particular thing (more at BANKRUPT) *bankrupt* *n* (1570) 1 *a* : reduced to a state of financial ruin: IMPOVERISHED; *specif* : legally declared a bankrupt (the company went ~) *b* : relating to bankrupt or bankruptcy (~ laws) 2 : BROKEN-THROUGH (a professional career) *b* : exhausted of valuable qualities *bankster* *n* (ca. old culture) *c* : DESTINATE — used with of or in (~ in merciful feelings) *bankrupt* *n* (1588) 1 : to reduce to bankruptcy 2 : IMPOVERISH (war on the nation's natural resources) *syn* see DEPLETE *bankruptcy* *'ban-kə-p̄tē* *n*, *pl* -cies (1700) 1 : the quality or state of being bankrupt 2 : utter failure or impoverishment *bankshot* *n* (1897) 1 : a shot in billiards and pool in which a player hits the cue ball or the object ball 2 : a shot in basketball played to rebound from the backboard into the basket *bankia* *'ban-kiə* *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Sir Joseph Banks] (1803) : any of a genus (*Banksia*) of Australian evergreen trees or shrubs of the protea family with alternate leathery leaves and flowers in dense silvery heads *bankside* *'bank-sid'* *n* (15c) 1 : the slope of a bank esp. of a stream *bankside* *n* [ME *banere*, fr. OF, fr. Gmc origin; akin to Goth *ban* one edge for a staff and used by a leader (as a monarch or feudal lord) at his standard) 2 : *FLAG* 1 *c* : an ensign displaying a distinctive or symbolic device or legend; *esp* : one presented as an award of honor or distinction 2 : a headline in large type running across a newspaper *bank* *n* (1840) 1 : a strip of cloth on which a sign is painted (welded with a particular group or ideology (the new ~ is "community commitment" — M. Hechinger) — often used with *under* (every new *bank* arrives) 2 : under the ~ of change — John Cogley) 3 : prominent in support of a political party (a ~ county) 4 : distinguished from all others *esp*. in excellence or for business *banker* *n* [ME *baneret*, fr. OF, fr. *baner* a knight leading his vassals into the field under his own banner] 1 : a knight leading his vassals into the field under his own banner 2 : *ban-er-ette* *n* (14c) : a small banner *banderole* *'ban-dərōl'* *n* (1548) : BANDEROLE *banderole* *n* [ME *bannok*, fr. OE *bannuc*] (bef. 12c) 1 : a usu. round flat bread of biscuit made with oatmeal or barley meal 2 : *CORN BREAD* *esp* : a thin cake baked on a griddle *banderole* *n* [ME *banne*, fr. ME *bane*, ban proclamation, ban] 1 : a formal announcement esp. in church of a proposed marriage *banquet* *'ban-kət'* *n* [MF, fr. OIt *banchetta*, fr. *banca* bank] (15c) : an elaborate and often ceremonious meal often in honor of a person

banquet *vi* (ca. 1500) : to partake of a banquet ~ *vt* : to treat with a banquet: FEAST — *ban-quet-er* *n* *banquet room* *n* (1837) : a large room (as in a restaurant or hotel) suitable for banquets *banquette* *'ban-kət'*, *ban-* *lb* *is also* *'ban-kət'* *n* [Fr, fr. Prov *banqueta*, dim. of *banc* — more at BANK] (1629) 1 *a* : a raised way along the inside of a parapet or trench for gunners or guns *b* : Southern: SIDE-WALK 2 *a* : a long upholstered bench *b* : a sofa having one roll-over arm *c* : a built-in upholstered bench along a wall *Banquo* *'ban-kwō*, *ban-* *n* : a murdered Scottish thane in Shakespeare's *Macbeth* whose ghost appears to Macbeth *ban-shee* *'ban-شē*, *ban-* *n* [ScGael *bean-sith*, fr. or akin to 'Olr ben side woman of fairyland] (1771) : a female spirit in Gaelic folklore whose appearance or wailing warns a family that one of them will soon die *ban-tam* *'ban-təm* *n* [Bantam, former residency in Java] (1749) 1 : any of numerous small domestic fowls that are often miniatures of members of the standard breeds 2 : a person of diminutive stature and often combative disposition *ban-tam* *adj* (1782) 1 : SMALL DIMINUTIVE 2 : pertly combative: SAUCY *ban-tam-weight* *'ban-təm-wēt'* *n* (1884) : boxer in a weight division having a maximum limit of 118 pounds for professionals and 119 pounds for amateurs — compare FEATHERWEIGHT, FLYWEIGHT *ban-ter* *'ban-tər'* *vb* [origin unknown] *vi* (1676) 1 : to speak to or address in a witty and teasing manner 2 *archaic* : DELUGE 3 *chiefly or Southern & Midland* : CHALLENGE ~ *vi* : to speak or act playfully or wittily — *ban-ter-er* *'ban-tər-ər'* *n* — *ban-ter-ingly* *'ban-tər-ər-īng* *adv* *banter* *n* (1690) : good-natured and usu. witty and animated joking (exchanged ~ with newsmen) *bank-ling* *'ban-lɪng'* *n* [perh. modif. of G *bänkling* bastard, fr. *bank* bench, fr. OHG — more at BENCH] (1593) : a very young child *Bantu* *'ban-tū*, *ban-* *n* *pl* *Bantu* or *Bantus* (1862) 1 : a group of African languages spoken generally south of a line from Cameroons to Kenya 2 *a* : a family of Negroid peoples who occupy equatorial and southern Africa *b* : a member of any of these peoples *Ban-tu-stan* *'ban-tū-stān*, *ban-* *n* [Bantu + -stan land (as in Hindustan)] (1956) : any of several all-black enclaves in the Republic of So. Africa that have a limited degree of self-government *ban-yan* *'ban-yən* *n* [earlier *banyan* Hindu merchant, fr. Hindi *banīya*; fr. Skt *vāṇī* merchant] (1634) : an East Indian tree (*Ficus bengalensis*) of the mulberry family with branches that send out shoots which grow down to the soil and root to form secondary trunks *ban-zai* *(ō)ban-zai* *n* [JP] (1893) : a Japanese cheer or war cry *baobab* *'bau-bəb'*, *ba-* *n* [prob. native name in Africa] (1640) : a broad-trunked Old World tropical tree (*Adansonia digitata*) of the silk-cotton family with an edible acid fruit resembling a gourd and bark used in making paper, cloth, and rope *baptise* *'bap-tiz'* *v* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *baptis* dipping, fr. *baptin*] (1888) : any of a genus (*Baptisia*) of No. American leguminous plants with showy papilionaceous flowers *baptism* *'bap-tizm*, *esp* Southern *'bab-* *n* [ME *baptisme*] (14c) 1 : a Christian sacrament marked by ritual use of water and admitting the recipient to the Christian community *b* : a non-Christian rite using water for ritual purification *c* Christian Science : purification by or submersion in Spirit 2 : an act, experience, or ordeal by which one is purified, sanctified, initiated, or named — *bap-tis-mal* *'bap-tiz-məl*, *esp* Southern *'bab-* *adv* *baptismal* *n* (1869) : a name given at christening or confirmation *baptism of fire* (1857) 1 : an introductory or initial experience that is a severe ordeal; *specif* : a soldier's first exposure to enemy fire 2 : a spiritual baptism by a gift of the Holy Spirit — often used in allusion to Acts 2:3-4; Mt 3:11 (RSV) *baptist* *'bap-tist*, *esp* Southern *'bab-* *n* (13c) 1 : one that baptizes 2 : a member or adherent of an evangelical Protestant denomination marked by congregational polity and baptism by immersion of believers only — *Baptist* *adj* *baptis-try* *'bap-to-strē*, *esp* Southern *'bab-* *n*, *pl* -ter-ies *-tries* (14c) : a part of a church or formerly a separate building used for baptism *baptize* *'bap-tiz*, *'bap-*, *esp* Southern *'bab-* or *'bab-* *vb* *baptized*; *baptiz-ing* [ME *baptizan*, fr. OF *baptiser*, fr. LL *baptizare*, fr. Gk *baptizē* to dip, baptize, fr. *baptos* dipped, fr. *baptē* to dip; akin to ON *kvefja* to quench] *vi* (13c) 1 : to administer baptism to 2 *a* : to purify or cleanse spiritually esp. by a purging experience or ordeal *b* : INITIATE 3 : to give a name to (as at baptism) : CHRISTEN ~ *vi* : to administer baptism — *baptizer* *n* *bar* *'bār*, *n* *often attrib* [ME *barre*, fr. MF] (12c) 1 *a* : a straight piece (as of wood or metal) that is longer than it is wide and has any of various uses (as for a lever, support, barrier, or fastening) *b* : a solid piece or block of material that is usu. rectangular and considerably longer than it is wide *c* : a usu. rigid piece (as of wood or metal) longer than it is wide that is used as a handle or support; *esp* : a hand-rail used by baller dancers to maintain balance while exercising 2 : something that obstructs or prevents passage, progress, or action; as: *a* : the complete and permanent destruction of an action or claim in law; *also* : a plea or objection that effects such destruction *b* : an intangible or nonphysical impediment *c* : a submerged or partly submerged bank (as of sand) along a shore or in a river often obstructing navigation 3 *a* (1) : the railing in a courtroom that encloses the place about the judge where prisoners are stationed or where the business of the court is transacted in civil cases (2) : COURT, TRIBUNAL (3) : a particular system of courts (4) : an authority or tribunal that hands down judgment *b* (1) : the barrier in the English Inns of Court that formerly separated the seats of the benchers or readers from the body of the hall occupied by the students (2) : the whole body of

~ about ~ kitten, F table ~ further ~ ash ~ ace ~ cot, cart ~ out ~ ch chin ~ bet ~ easy ~ go ~ hit ~ ice ~ job ~ sing ~ go ~ law ~ boy ~ th thin ~ h the ~ loot ~ foot ~ yet ~ zh vision ~ k, ~, ~, ~, ~ see Guide to Pronunciation

sol-fége \säl-fézh\ n [F. fr. *Il solfeggio* (ca. 1903) 1: the application of the sol-fa syllables to a musical scale or to a melody exercise esp. using sol-fa syllables; also: practice in sight-reading music using the sol-fa syllables

sol-fé-gio \säl-féj-(ë)-yo\ n [It. fr. *sol-fa*] (1774): SOLFÉGE

sol-gel \säl-jel, -sol\ adj (ca. 1925) : involving alternation between sol and gel states

sol-i-*p* of *SOLO*

sol-i-*it* \säl-i-it\ vb [ME *soliciten* to disturb, take charge of, or annoy, fr. *soliciter*, fr. L *solicitare* to disturb, fr. *solicitus* anxious, fr. *sollici* to ask, fr. *Oscan* akin to Gk *holos* whole] + *it* citus pp. of *cire* to move more at **SAFE** HIGHT] vt (1509) 1 a: to make petition to: ENTREAT b: to approach with a request or plea 2: to strongly urge (as one cause) 3 a: to entice or lure esp. into evil b: to propose (as one esp. as in the character of a prostitute 4: to try to obtain usu. urgent requests or pleads — vi 1: to make solicitation — TUNE 2 of a prostitute: to offer to have sexual relations with someone for money *syn see* ASK

sol-i-*it*-ant \säl-i-it-änt\ n (1802) : one who solicits

sol-i-*it*-a-tion \säl-i-it-äshän\ n (1500) 1: the practice or act of instance of soliciting; esp: ENTREATY, IMPORTUNITY 2: a moving drawing force: INCITEMENT, ALLUREMENT

sol-i-*it*-or \säl-i-it-ör\ n (15c) 1: one that solicits; 2: an agent that solicits (as contributions to charity) 2: a British who advises clients, represents them in the lower courts, and prepares cases for barristers to try in higher courts 3: the chief law officer of municipality, county, or government department — *sol-i-ship* n

solicitor general n, pl *solicitors general* (1647) : a law officer appointed primarily to assist an attorney general

sol-i-*it*-ous \säl-i-it-üs, -üs-tüs\ adj [L *solicitus*] (1563) 1: manifesting or expressing solicitude (as *a* inquiry about his health) 2: full of concern or fears: APPREHENSIVE (as *about* the future) 3: meticulously careful (as *in* matters of dress) 4: full of desire: EAGER

sol-i-*it*-ous-ly adv — *sol-i-ous-ness* n

sol-i-*it*-ude \säl-i-it-üd\ n (15c) 1 a: the state of being solicitous; ANXIETY b: attentive care and protectiveness; also: an attitude of solicitous concern or attention 2: a cause of care or concern; usu. used in pl. *syn see* CARE

sol-i-*id* \säl-i-id\ adj [ME *solute*, fr. MF, fr. L *solidus* akin to *solidus* whole — more at **SAFE**] (14c) 1 a: being without an internal cavity (as *a* ball of rubber) b: (1) : printed with minimum space between lines (2): joined without a hyphen (as *a* compound) c: not interrupted by a break or opening (as *a* wall) 2: having, involving, dealing with three dimensions or with solids (as *configuration*) 3: of uniformly close and coherent texture: not loose or spony 4: of good substantial quality 5: having a strong, pleasant kind (as *a* sound) 6: made firmly and well (as *furniture*) 5 a: having no break or interruption (as *three hours*) b: UNANIMOUS (had the *the* support of his party) 7: intimately friendly or associated (as *with* his boss) 6 a: *solid* also: well-established financially 6 b: serious in purpose or character 7: of one substance or character: as a: entirely of one metal or containing the minimum of alloy necessary to impart hardness (as *silver*) b: of single color *syn see* FIRM — *sol-i-dy* adv — *sol-i-des* n

sol-i-*id* n (15c) 1: a geometrical figure or element (as a cube or sphere) having three dimensions 2 a: a substance that does not flow perceptibly under moderate stress b: the part of a solution or suspension that when freed from solvent or suspending medium has the qualities of a solid — usu. used in pl. (as *milk*) 3: something that is solid *sol-i-dy* n 4: a solid color b: a compound word whose members are joined together without a hyphen

*sol-i-dy* adv (1651) : in a solid manner; also: UNANIMOUSLY

sol-i-dago \säl-i-dä-(ö)gö, -däg-(ö)gö\ n, pl -gos [NL fr. ML *solidago*, fr. *solidus* solid] (1771) : any of a genus (*Solidago*) of chiefly North American composite herbs including the typical goldenrods

solid angle n (ca. 1704) : the three-dimensional angular spread of the vertex of a cone measured by the area intercepted by the cone on a sphere whose center is the vertex of the cone

sol-i-dar-i-ism \säl-i-där-ëz, fiz-äm\ n [*solidarity* + -ism] (ca. 1913) 1: *solidarity* 2: *solidarism* — *sol-i-dar-ist* \säl-i-där-ist\ n — *sol-i-dar-ic* \säl-i-där-ik\ adj — *sol-i-dar-i-ty* \säl-i-där-të\ n [*Solidarity*, fr. *solidaire* characteristic of *solidarity*, fr. L *solidum* whole sum, fr. neut. of *solidus* solid] (1446) 1: unity (as of a group or class) that produces or is based on common interests, objectives, and standards 2: a branch of geometry that deals with figures of three-dimensional space

sol-i-dif-ly \säl-i-dif-ë, fiz\ adv; -fy-ing vt (1799) 1: to make solid, compact, or hard 2: to make secure, substantial, or firmly fixed: factors that *public opinion*) ~ vi: to become solid, compact, or firm — *sol-i-difi-cation* \säl-i-däf-ë-kä-shän\ n

sol-i-dif-ty \säl-i-dif-të\ n, pl -ties (1532) 1: the quality or state of being solid 2: something solid

sol-i-*id*-look-ing \säl-i-id'-ük-ing\ adj (1883) : giving an impression of solid worth or substance (as *well-fed citizens*)

solid of revolution (1816) : a mathematical solid conceived as formed by the revolution of a plane figure about an axis in its plane

solid-state adj (1950) 1: relating to the properties, structure, or conductivity of solid material; esp: relating to the arrangement and behavior of ions, molecules, nucleons, electrons, and holes in the crystals of a solid (as a semiconductor) or to the effect of crystal imperfections on the properties of a solid substance (as *physics*) 2: utilizing the electric, magnetic, or photic properties of solid materials: not utilizing electron tubes (as *a* stereo system)

sol-i-*id*-st \säl-i-id-st\ n, pl -ids \säl-i-idz\ adj (14c) 1: an ancient Roman gold coin introduced by Constantine and used to the fall of the Byzantine Empire 2 [ML *shilling*, fr. LL *solidus* used as a symbol for shillings]: DIAGONAL 3

sol-i-*li*-fli-ction \säl-i-lë-flik-shän\ n [L *solum* soil + *fluere* to flow — more at *FLUID*] (1916) : the slow creeping of saturated fragmental material (as *snow*) down a slope that usu. occurs in regions of perennial frost

sol-i-*li*-quist \säl-i-lë-kwëst\ n (1804) : one who soliloquizes

pip-kin \pɪp-kɪn\ n [perh. fr. *pipe*] (1565) : a small earthenware or metal pot usu. with a horizontal handle  
pip-kin \pɪp-kɪn\ n [ME *pepin*, fr. MF *pepin*] (15c) 1 : any of numerous apples that have usu. yellow or greenish yellow skins strongly flushed with red and are used esp. for cooking 2 : a highly admired or very admirable person or thing  
pip-pip \pɪp-pɪp\, *interj* [origin unknown] Brit (ca. 1904) : GOOD-BYE  
pis-sis-e-wa \pɪp-sɪs-e-wə\ n [Cree *pipisisikweu*] (1789) : any of a genus (*Chimaphila*, esp. *C. umbellata*) of evergreen herbs of the wintergreen family with astringent leaves used as a tonic and diuretic  
pig-squeak \pɪp-skweɪk\ n (1910) : one that is small or insignificant  
pi-quance \pē-kwāns\, *n* (1883) : PIQUANCY  
pi-quan-ty \pē-kwān-ty\, *n* (1664) : the quality or state of being piquant  
pi-quant \pē-kwānt, -kānt; 'pik-wont\, adj [MF, fr. prp. of *piquer*] (1630) 1 : agreeably stimulating to the palate; esp. : SPICY 2 : engagingly provocative; also : having a lively arch charm *syn* see PUNGENT — pi-quan-tly *adv* — pi-quan-tess *n*  
pi'que \pēk\ n (1592) : a transient feeling of wounded vanity : a fit of resentment *syn* see OFFENSE  
pi'que or pi'quid; pi'quing [F *piquer*, lit., to prick — more at PIKE] (1669) 1 : to arouse anger or resentment in : IRRITATE (what ~s, linguistic conservatives — T.H. Middleton) 2 a : to excite or arouse by a provocation, challenge, or rebuff (sly remarks to ~ their interest), b : PRIDE (he ~s himself on his skill as a cook) *syn* see PROVOKE  
pi-qué or pi-qué \pē-kā, pē-é\ n [F *pique*, fr. pp. of *piquer* to prick, quilt] (1852) : a durable ribbed clothing fabric of cotton, rayon, or silk  
pi-quet \pē-kāt; pik-é\ n [F] (1646) : a two-handed card game played with 32 cards  
pi-ra-cy \pē-rā-sē\, n, pl -cies [ML *piratia*, fr. LGk *pirateia*, fr. Gk *peiratēs* pirate] (ca. 1552) 1 : robbery on the high seas 2 : the unauthorized use of another's production, invention, or conception esp. in infringement of a copyright 3 a : an act of piracy b : an act resembling piracy  
pi-ra-gua \pē-rā-gwā, -rag-wā, -rag\ n [Sp] (1609) 1 : DUGOUT 1 2 : a 2-masted flat-bottomed boat  
pi-ra-nha \pē-rā-nā, -rān-yā\ n [Pg, fr. *Tupi*] (1869) : a small South American characin fish (genus *Serrasalmo*) that often attacks and inflicts dangerous wounds upon men and large animals — called also *caribe*  
pi-ra-ru-cu \pē-rā-rū'kū\ n [Pg, fr. *Tupi pirá-rucu*] (1840) : a very large food fish (*Apaimana gigas*, order *Isopondylida*) of the rivers of northern So. America  
pi'-rate \pē'-rāt\ n [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *pirata*, fr. Gk *peiratēs*, fr. *peiran* to attempt — more at FEAR] (15c) : one who commits or practices piracy — pi'-rat-i-cal \pē'-rat-i-kəl, pi'-\ adj — pi'-rat-i-cal-ly \k'-shə-lē\, *adv*  
pirate vb pirated; pi'-rat-ing vt (1574) 1 : to commit piracy on 2 : to take or appropriate by piracy; as: a : to reproduce without authorization esp. in infringement of copyright b : to lure away from another employer by offers of betterment ~vi: to commit or practice piracy  
pirn \pērn, 2 is also 'pi(s)n\ n [ME] (15c) 1 : QUILL 1a(1) 2 chiefly Scot : a device resembling a reel  
pi-ro-gi \pē-rō-žē, pi(rō)-ōžē, pi(rō)-ōžē\, n, pl -gi or -gies [Pol] (1927) : PIROSHKI  
pi-ro-gu \pē-rō-gū\ n [Fr, fr. Sp *piragua*, of Caribian origin; akin to Galibi *piraura* pirogue] (1666) 1 : DUGOUT 1 2 : a boat like a canoe  
piro-plasm \pērō-plazm\ or *piro-plas-ma* \pērō-plažm\, n, pl -piro-plasma or *piro-plas-ma*-ta \pērō-plažm-ta\ [NL *Proplasma*, genus of piroplasms] (1901) : BABESIA  
pi-rosh-ki or pi-rozh-ki \pērō-šē, -kē\, n pl [Russ *pirozhki*, pl. of *pirozhok* small tart] (1912) : small cases of dough with meat, cheese, or vegetable filling  
pirouette \pērō-ēt\, n [F, lit., teetotum] (1706) : a rapid, whirling about of the body; *specif*: a full turn on the toe or ball of one foot in ballet — piroette vt  
pis pl of pi  
pis al-ler \pēz-ā-'lā\, n, pl pis al-lers \pēz(z)\ [F, lit., to go worst] (1676) : a last resource or device: EXPEDIENT  
pis-ca-to-ri-al \pēs-kā-tōrē-əl, -tōrē-\, adj (1828) : PISCATORY  
pis-ca-to-ry \pēs-kā-tōrē, -tōrē-\, adj [L *piscatorius*, fr. *piscatus*, pp. of *piscari* to fish, fr. *piscis*] (1633) : of, relating to, or dependent on fish or fishing  
pis-see-an \pēs-ē-ən, 'pēs-ē-, 'pēs-kē-\, n (1925) : PISCES 2b  
Pis-cine \pēs'-ēn, 'pēs-, 'pēs-kās\ n pl but sing in constr [ME, fr. L (gen. *Piscium*), fr. pl. of *piscis* fish — more at FISH] 1 : a zodiacal constellation directly south of Andromeda 2 a : the 12th sign of the zodiac in astrology b : one born under this sign  
pis-ci-cul-ture \pēs-sā-kəl-chör, 'pēs(k)-ə\, n [prob. F, fr. L *piscis* + F culture 'culture'] (1859) : fish culture  
pis-ci-ne \pēs-sē-nā, -sē-nā\, n [ML, fr. L, fishpond, fr. *piscis*] (1793) : a basin with a drain near the altar of a church for disposing of water from liturgical ablutions  
pis-cine \pēs-sē-nē, 'pēs-, (k)ē\, adj [L *piscinus*, fr. *piscis*] (1799) : of, relating to, or characteristic of fish  
pis-ci-to-rous \pēs-sē-tōrēs, -tōrēs\, adj [L *piscis* + E -vorous] (1668) : feeding on fishes  
pish \pēsh\ *interj* (1592) — used to express disdain or contempt  
pis-i-form \pēs-i-fōrm\, adj [L *pisum* pea + E -form — more at PEA] (1767) : resembling a pea in size or shape  
pisiform *n* (1808) : a bone on the ulnar side of the carpus in most mammals  
pis-mire \pēs-mīr\, 'pēz-mīr\, n [ME *pissimire*, fr. *pisse* urine + *mire* ant. of Scand. origin; akin to ON *maurr* ant; akin to L *formica* ant, Gk *myrmex*] (14c) : ANT